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COUNTRY Polish Occupied Germany REPORT NO. _____
(Pomerania)TOPIC 1. Polish Troops at Gross Born Training Grounds2. Fu 1 Depot in Schneidemuehl.EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT To September 1949DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 9 March 1950

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1. Gross Born (P 54/R 88) troop training grounds.

a. A Polish infantry guard detail of about 50 men was in the Westfalenhof Camp, about 3 km northwest of Zippnow (P 54/R 87). CO of this detail and of the camp was a Maj Sybolovkov. The soldiers of the detail wore a red "F" on their epaulets. Neither the Westfalenhof Camp nor the troop training grounds were permanently occupied by Polish troops.

b. The Westfalenhof main camp consisted of 32 wooden cantonment buildings which were already repaired in September 1945. * PWs were quartered in some of the buildings. The camp included a four-story headquarters building, occupied by the Polish guard detail. A branch camp of about 12 cantonment buildings, occupied by German civilian internees, was near the main camp.

c. Maneuvers of two thousand to three thousand Polish troops were held at the troop training grounds from late August to mid-September 1949.** The troops slept in tents. They belonged to motorized infantry units
The following arms and equipments were observed :

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Egg-shaped and stick hand-grenades,
Submachine guns of Soviet and other make,
Rifles,
German heavy machine guns of 1942 type,
Light AT or infantry guns of 76.2 mm caliber
(estimated) with light prime movers similar to
tractors,
Heavy mortars,

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AA guns of 88 mm caliber (estimated),
 About 100 tanks of various types, including
 T 34/85, and four or five JS-122,
 German SP guns.

Although no artillery pieces were observed, the
 PW heard artillery fire at the training grounds.
 German-made radio stations and signal troops
 with FF-cables (underground construction), but
 no engineer equipment, were observed.

d. Soviet officers supervised Polish maneuvers, which
 have been held every spring and fall since 1947.
 Five to ten Soviet officers and some Soviet NCOs,
 who were frequently exchanged, have been stationed
 in the Westfalenhof Camp since 1947. The Soviets
 selected the maneuver area and planned and
 directed the maneuvers, according to Polish
 guards.

e. German pillboxes were destroyed by blasting
 and emplacements and field positions near
 Pommernwald leveled by PWs. However, the fortified
 defense system was reconditioned in the late Summer
 of 1947, with new shelters reinforced by iron
 girders and wooden piles instead of the demolished
 pillboxes.

2. Fuel depot in Schneidemuehl (P 54/R 94) :

observed near the railroad station a fuel
 depot of 20 to 30 tanks. These were seven to eight
 meters long and at least one meter in diameter.

Comment :

* According to information available, the Westfalenhof
 camp consisted of many barracks and had a capacity
 of one infantry regiment and one artillery regiment
 up to the beginning of 1945. The camp also included
 a large cantonment. As the barracks have not been
 mentioned, they probably were destroyed during the
 war.

** Although previous reports on the Gross Born troop
 training grounds referred only to Soviet troops,
 it is considered credible that Camp Westfalenhof
 may have been placed at the disposal of Polish
 troops for maneuvers.

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